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sume. Nor is it his habit to obtrude his religious opinions where his subject does not demand reference to them. We hope, in an early number of this journal, to make the recent re-issue of his philosophical works the occasion for an extended notice of his speculations in mental, moral, and political science. At present, we can only say that this edition leaves nothing to be desired in completeness, elegance of form, and perfectness of typography. In the portion of the first volume paged with Roman numerals, we find the author's brief autobiography, his will, a notice of his last illness by his friend Adam Smith, and a documentary history of the controversy between Hume and Rousseau, or rather of the quarrel got up by Rousseau from mere vanity and egotism, to which he unsuccessfully endeavored to make Hume a party.

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- 13.— *Autocracy in Poland and Russia; or, A Description of Russian Misrule in Poland, and an Account of the Surveillance of Russian Spies at Home and Abroad. Including the Experience of an Exile.* By JULIAN ALLEN. New York: John Wiley. 12mo. pp. 200.

THE latter portion of this volume is a well-digested synopsis of the history of Poland. The earlier part is the narrative of what has taken place within the author's own knowledge, and in part within his own experience. It is a story harrowing to the sensibilities, but bearing all the marks and numbers of truth. The author, when a student in the government college at Grodna, was obliged to flee for his life, on account of complicity with his fellow-students in a movement looking towards emancipation. He has now been for several years an American citizen, writes our language with ease and accuracy, and manifests literary capacities which will make us glad again, and often, to welcome him on the arena of authorship.

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- 14.— *Bertha and Lily; or, The Parsonage of Beech Glen. A Romance.* By ELIZABETH OAKES SMITH. New York: J. C. Derby. 24mo. pp. 336.

MRS. SMITH's motto is, "Brother John Bates, is not that the morning which breaks yonder?" She should have added this from Horace:—

"Pueris olim dant crustula blandi
Doctores, elementa velint ut discere prima."

The *cakes* are now in constant requisition. The novel supersedes all other forms of philosophical instruction, and doctrines destined to regenerate the world are attached (too often hung as sinkers) to the love-adventures of Henry and Julia. Mrs. Smith has encased in "Bertha and Lily" her entire "Gospel of to-day,"—her pet notions as to social reform, the "liberty of prophesying," woman's rights, and man's and woman's respective *missions*. The story is obscure, broken, and heavy, but relieved by some passages of great vigor and eloquence, especially by the Hypatia-like utterances of the heroine, and enriched by several sonnets and other poems of peculiar simplicity and sweetness. With the humane and hopeful tone of the book we heartily sympathize. From many of its doctrines we no less heartily dissent. But we would prefer to meet them in an argumentative form, instead of encountering them in this garb of fiction, in which they are indeed unanswerable, because they make their appeal, not to the reason, but to the æsthetic nature.

- 15.—*Armenia: a Year at Erzeroom, and on the Frontiers of Russia, Turkey, and Persia.* By the HON. ROBERT CURZON. New York: Harper & Brothers. 1854. 24mo. pp. 226.

THE author of this book was one of the Commissioners appointed by the government of Great Britain, at the request of those of Turkey and Persia, to aid in the settlement of their border controversies, and in the suppression of their border hostilities. The climate, roads, and condition of the country prevented his making any very extensive explorations; nor did much fall under his notice at Erzeroom, except penury, misgovernment, discomfort, bigotry, and ignorance. But he has faithfully described all that he saw, and has given us as interesting an account as he could of a country, the very name of which excites curiosity, in part because it is so little known, and in part because its emigrant natives are so well known and so strongly marked in all the commercial cities of Western Asia and Eastern Europe. The else scant narrative is pieced out by a succinct and well-written sketch of the political and ecclesiastical history of Armenia.

- 16.—*Literary Recreations and Miscellanies.* By JOHN G. WHITTIER. Boston: Ticknor & Fields. 1854. 12mo. pp. 431.

MOST of the pieces in this volume were written for newspapers and other periodicals, but merit a more enduring place in the literature of